

wounded. Officer McClintick was able to pull Marshal Ley from the kill zone while coming under fire himself.

Immediately, a Rapid Response Team comprised of Sergeant Baitinger, Sergeant Lounge, Officer MacDonald, and Officer Weaver was formed. Sergeant Baitinger, a Rapid Response Instructor, volunteered to lead the team into the house to rescue of his fellow officers and was fatally wounded.

Officer Weaver dropped his weapon and attempted to recover the body of Officer Yaslowitz, but was driven back by the gunfire and was wounded himself. He then helped Officer MacDonald move Officer McClintick and Marshal Ley to safety. Officer Weaver was then able to move Sergeant Baitinger's body out of the house along with Sergeant Lounge and Officer MacDonald.

On that January evening, it pained me to take to the House floor to inform my colleagues of the tragedy that had occurred. As I stated that day, "This is a sober reminder that the men and women who serve us as law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day. It is also a good time to say thank you for all those who serve us in uniform at home or abroad."

Sergeant Baitinger and Officer Yaslowitz made the ultimate sacrifice while serving their community and now have their names inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. Marshal Ley, Sergeant Lounge, Officer MacDonald, Officer Weaver, and Officer McClintick all showed tremendous bravery in the line of fire. Because of their selfless actions, these law enforcement officers earned the Congressional Badge of Bravery.

#### IN HONOR AND MEMORIAM OF STANLEY WILSON, A COURAGEOUS DALLAS FIREFIGHTER

#### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 23, 2013*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of fallen Dallas firefighter Stanley Allen Wilson.

Stanley worked selflessly alongside his fellow firefighters and was an exemplary example of steadfast commitment to bettering, protecting and saving lives. When others run away, the brave men and women who serve as our first responders rush in. Stanley Wilson was no different. Responding to a massive six alarm fire, he answered the call of duty and made the ultimate sacrifice to keep our community safe.

Stanley, a lifelong native of Dallas, Texas, was a 1979 graduate of Lake Highlands High School and attended the University of Texas. As a 28-year veteran of the Dallas Fire Department, Stanley served proudly at Dallas Fire Station #53 in Lakewood.

Stanley's life reflected his love for family and community. He was a devout Christian, dedicated husband and father, and a true public servant. Whether it was serving his church community at Park Cities Baptist Church, serving his sons as the quartermaster for Boy Scout Troop 890, or serving the City of Dallas as a firefighter, Stanley held true to his principles and never wavered in his loyalty to those around him.

Stanley Wilson is survived by his wife of 20 years, Jenny and his two sons Noah and Luke.

I am privileged to honor this fellow Boy Scout Leader and commend him for "leaving his campsite better than he found it." Stanley Wilson will be greatly missed. May the peace of God be with those he loved and sustain them through this hour of sorrow.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL ARTHRITIS MONTH

#### HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 23, 2013*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Arthritis Month. Arthritis is a disease that affects more than 50 million Americans of all ages including some residents of Pennsylvania's 7th District. Arthritis includes more than 100 joint diseases that can affect the entire body, causing severe pain for many. While questions still remain, I am encouraged by the cutting edge research being conducted on arthritis, particularly at the NIH. Early diagnosis and disease management can help prevent long term pain for individuals living with arthritis and their families. As May draws to a close, let us continue to raise awareness of arthritis, remembering the individuals living with the disease every day.

#### A TRIBUTE TO WWII VETERAN JERRY LUPTAK

#### HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 23, 2013*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jerry Luptak, a Michigan resident, a veteran, and a hero of one of World War II's most infamous battles—the "Battle of the Bulge."

Jerry began his military career in the ROTC at Michigan State University. His group was called into duty and assigned to the 36th Infantry division. Upon landing in Italy, he and his unit fought through southern France, advancing the Allied line.

During the Battle of the Bulge, Jerry served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 131st Field Artillery Battalion. He was positioned as a forward Artillery Observer on a bridgehead on the German side of the river, the very front of the Allied line. From his position in the fourth floor of a building, Jerry saw the enemy advancing with an overwhelming force of troops and tanks. Thinking quickly, Lieutenant Luptak called for his fellow troops to take cover, then called in an artillery barrage on the German advance. Still exposed in his fourth floor position, Jerry put his own life in danger to give the American forces their only chance at avoiding defeat. His quick decision-making and bravery proved successful, and the artillery barrage defeated the German advance.

Lieutenant Luptak was awarded a silver star for his gallantry in action. According to his citation, Jerry "effectively directed artillery fire was of material aid in crushing enemy attacks." This battle was an important stepping

stone in halting the German opposition during World War II.

Jerry's vast combat experience and tactical knowledge provided vital tools to the United States Armed Forces. In addition to his silver star, he also received the American Theater Service Medal, German Occupation Medal, and the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

As Memorial Day approaches, all Americans should remember our brave servicemen and women, like Jerry Luptak, who dutifully and nobly answered the call to service for our nation, and the debt of gratitude we owe to them. On behalf of Michigan's 4th Congressional District, the Members of the Michigan Congressional Delegation, and all Americans, I thank Jerry Luptak for his dedicated and selfless service, and bravery in the face of the enemy.

#### RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION AND SERVICE OF CHAPLAIN DAVID L. GIBSON OF NORTH- WEST FLORIDA

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 23, 2013*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and service of Chaplain David L. Gibson upon the occasion of his retirement. Chaplain Gibson is a proud resident of the Gulf Coast, where he is retiring after serving his nation with honor and distinction as Command Chaplain and Protestant Chapel Pastor at Naval Air Station Pensacola.

Chaplain Gibson was born in Mableton, Georgia, and began serving his community at an early age through religious education. He acted as a minister of Youth, Music, and Christian Education at numerous churches, first as an intern and ultimately as director of a tri-city area based in Midland, Michigan. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in Christian Education in 1980 and his Masters in Divinity in 1983, Chaplain Gibson was ordained in July 1984 and commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy.

Chaplain Gibson led his military communities spiritually in posts as Chaplain or Command Chaplain in Naples, Italy; Norfolk, Virginia; Yorktown, Virginia; and Beaufort, South Carolina; before arriving in Pensacola to serve in 1998. While assigned to Naval Air Station Pensacola as the Assistant Department Head of the Naval Education and Training Professional Development Command, he designed and delivered over two hundred professional development courses. For his dedication and exceptional service, Chaplain Gibson was awarded the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. Following his promotion to Commander in 2003, Chaplain Gibson moved to serve at the Navy Chaplains School in Newport, Rhode Island for three years before returning to Naval Air Station Pensacola. In a further testament to his devotion to education, he earned his Doctorate of Strategic Leadership from Regent University in 2006.

During his career, Chaplain Gibson founded the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training Program. Today, this program is the standardized training that all chaplains and other Navy